

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XV

First Day of the Fifth Session of Eleventh Lok Sabha

No. 1

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, July 23, 1997/Shravana 1, 1919 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played.

11.03 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Sebastian Paul (Ernakulam)

Shri Naveen Patnaik (Aska)

Shri Lai Bihari Tiwari (East Delhi)

11.06 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, may I introduce to you and through you to the august House, my colleagues:

Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Shrimati Kamla Sinha, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.

Shrimati Ratnmala D. Savanoor, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation.

Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (KHAJURAHO): The hon. Prime Minister did not consider any of the women Members fit to hold cabinet rank.

11.07 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the demise of seven of our esteemed friends, Smt. Renuka Ray and Sarvashri Deep Narain Ban Mahanth, Y. Ramakrishna, Hari Krishan Shastri, Anand Narain Mulla, Yamuna Prasad Shastri and Erasmo de Sequeira.

Shrimati Renuka Ray was a member of Central Legislative Assembly, Constituent Assembly, Provisional Parliament and Second Lok Sabha representing Malda Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal during 1943-45, 1947-50, 1950-52 and 1957-60 respectively.

She was also a member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly during 1952-57. Smt. Ray served as Minister for Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation in West Bengal Government during 1952-57.

An active social and political worker, Smt. Ray vigorously worked for the welfare of the weaker sections of the society particularly of women. She was the President of all India Women's Conference during 1953-55.

A widely travelled person, Smt. Ray was a delegate to the United Nations General Assembly in 1949.

Smt. Renuka Ray passed away on 11 April, 1997 at Calcutta at the age of 94 years.

Shri Deep Narain Ban Mahanth was a member of Eighth Lok Sabha during 1984-89 representing Balrampur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, he had been a member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1969-77 and 1980-84.

An active social and political worker and a religious missionary, Shri Mahanth took keen interest in the promotion of education and was instrumental in running several schools in his area.

During his parliamentary career, he successfully drew the attention of the House to the problems faced by the downtrodden and weaker sections of the society.

Shri Deep Narain Ban Mahanth died at Gonda on 9 May, 1997 at the age of 63 years.

Shri Y. Ramakrishna was a Member of Ninth Lok Sabha representing Kolar Parliamentary Constituency of Karnataka during 1989-91. Earlier, he had been a member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly for five consecutive terms during 1957-85. At the time of his death, Shri Ramakrishna was a member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly.

Shri Ramakrishna served as a Deputy Minister during

1967-68 and Cabinet Minister during 1968-71 and 1980-83 in the Karnataka Government.

An agriculturist and advocate by profession, Shri Ramakrishna was a well known social and political worker. He actively participated in the freedom movement. An able and active parliamentarian, he made valuable contribution to the proceedings of the House. He served the member of the Estimates Committee and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

A widely travelled person, Shri Ramakrishna was a member of Delegations to Conferences of International Law Associations at Belgrade, Berlin and Montreal during 1980-82.

Shri Y. Ramakrishna passed away at Chitradurga, Karnataka on 25th May, 1997 at the age of 70 years.

Shri Anand Narain Mulla was a Member of Fourth Lok Sabha representing Lucknow Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1967-70. He was later a member of Rajya Sabha during 1972-78.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Mulla served as Chairman of High Powered Joint Parliamentary Committee to review Land Acquisition Act during 1967-69 and Chairman of Committee on Subordinate Legislation during 1969-70.

An advocate by profession, Shri Mulla served as Judge of Allahabad High Court from 1954 to 1961 and was also associated with various Enquiry Commissions and Judicial Tribunals.

A man of letters and a renowned Urdu poet, Shri Mulla wrote many poems in Urdu. He was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1964 for the best Urdu book *Meri Hadise Umre Gurezan*. His publications included *Mazamin-e-Nehru*, *Jue Sheer*, *Kuch Zarre Kuch Tare* etc. He was also actively associated with various Urdu Literary and Cultural organisations.

Shri Anand Narain Mulla passed away on 12th June, 1997 at New Delhi at the age of 96 years.

Shri Hari Krishna Shastri was a Member of Fourth, Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabhas representing Allahabad and Fatehpur Parliamentary Constituencies of Uttar Pradesh during 1967-70 and 1980-89.

Son of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, Shri Hari Krishna Shastri was an able parliamentarian. He took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. He was a member of Public Accounts Committee for two years during Seventh Lok Sabha. He served as the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture during 1998-89.

A Mechanical Engineer by profession, Shri Shastri was a social and political activist who espoused the cause of the weaker sections of society. He also took keen interest in various sports and youth activities.

Shri Hari Krishna Shastri passed away on 17th June, 1997 at New Delhi at the age of 59 years.

Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri was a Member of Sixth and Ninth Lok Sabhas representing Rewa Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh during 1977-79 and 1989-91. Earlier, he was a member of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1962-67.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Shastri actively participated in the Quit India Movement. He also participated in the Goa Liberation Movement in 1955 and lost his right eye vision due to torture by Portuguese police. He underwent imprisonment several times for ensuring relief from taxes to farmers and remunerative prices for their produce. Later, he also lost his left eye vision while organising people's struggle committee in Madhya Pradesh in March, 1975 and became totally blind.

Despite his serious handicaps, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. He was a member of the Committee on Official Languages, Committee on Petitions, Estimates Committee and Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri passed away on 20th June, 1997 at Bhopal at the age of 70 years.

Erasmio de Sequeira was a Member of Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabhas representing Marmagao parliamentary constituency of erstwhile Goa, Daman and Diu during 1967-77.

A man of letters, Shri Sequeira was known for his fluency in many Indian and foreign languages. His publications include *My Country and Me*. He authored many poems in English.

An able parliamentarian Shri Sequeira was member of Estimates Committee during 1967-69.

A widely travelled person, Shri Sequeira was also a very active social and political worker.

Shri Erasmio de Sequeira passed away on 16 July, 1997 at Goa at the age of 58 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.16 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 1

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, I have given notice for suspension of the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, there are unprecedented atrocities committed by the Government of Maharashtra on Dalits ...*(Interruptions)*